

 In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) ~~A catalyst~~ An electrocatalyst for oxygen reduction comprising a ruthenium sulfide supported on ~~[[a]]~~ an electrically conductive support.

Claim 2 (previously presented) The catalyst of claim 1 wherein the conductive support is a conductive carbon having a surface area exceeding 120 g/m^2 .

Claim 3 (previously presented) The catalyst of claim 2 wherein said conductive carbon is a carbon black having a surface area exceeding 120 g/m^2 .

Claim 4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (previously presented) The catalyst of claim 1 obtained by incipient wetness impregnation of said support with an aqueous solution of precursor salts of ruthenium, optionally comprising ruthenium chloride, drying the impregnated support and treating the resulting product under an atmosphere of hydrogen sulfide optionally diluted with an inert carrier gas.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The catalyst of claim 3 obtained by aqueous precipitation of a ruthenium oxide on said carbon, drying and treating the resulting